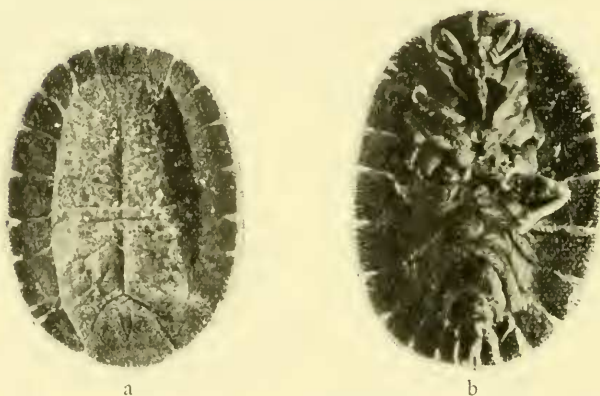


Preliminary description of a new representative of the family Termitocoridae SILV.

by

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Termitaphis australiensis n. sp. a. dorsal, b. ventral aspect. Enlarged.

Termitaphis australiensis n. sp.

Body flat and depressed, surrounded by a distinct and broad margin, light yellow; the whole dorsal side covered by small protruding papillae; the lateral margin of each segment provided with numerous flat papillae, carrying a central biarticulated flat appendix; the first article of the four-jointed antennae long and narrow, slightly bent, the third very short, the fourth elongated. Claws strongly developed.

Of this apparently very old and in many respects very peculiar family only three representatives were known before, two from America and one from Africa. They all live together with termites. Of the first Australian species, preliminary described above, I have collected quite a number of specimens under bark of dead eucalyptus-trunks in the colonies of a white ant (*Coptotermes* sp.) in the open forest-country at Beaudessert and near Mt. Tambourine in southern Queensland.

The peculiar creature will be more completely described in: Results of Dr. E. MJÖBERG's scientif. expeditions to Australia 1910—13. Kungl. Svenska Vetenskapsakademiens handlingar, Stockholm.